

Birch Creek and Dan River Watersheds TMDL Cleanup Plan
Agricultural Working Group
October 3, 2017
Danville Regional Airport, Eastern Conference Room

The agricultural working group will discuss ways to reduce bacteria coming from agricultural sources. The principal objective of this working group is to identify obstacles to implementation of practical solutions to reducing bacteria. This group will focus on identifying:

- Constraints to the implementation of BMPs
- BMPs that are both effective and affordable
- Alternative funding sources/partnerships
- The best strategies for reaching agricultural stakeholders

General Questions:

- 1) *How did you hear about tonight's meeting?*

- 2) *Are there other ways that we could get the word out about meetings?*

- 3) *Are there individuals/organizations not present tonight who you think should be here?*

- 4) *Are there any other bacteria sources that have not been discussed that we should consider in the plan?*

Agricultural Questions:

- 1) *What is the current growth trend for agriculture in the area? Do you expect to see significant changes in farming practices over the next 5-10 years?*

- 2) *Are local cattle producers receptive to stream fencing and improving grazing management?*
- 3) *What barriers are holding back progress to implementing stream fencing and improving pasture management?*
- 4) *Is there existing manure storage in the watershed? Is there a need for additional manure storage?*
- 5) *Are there any problems with manure spreading on crop or pasture fields locally? What are the best BMPs to address this source?*
- 6) *Is there poor pasture or erodible cropland in the area that should be converted to forest?*
- 7) *In general, are there practices that are more easily implemented and/or more appealing than other practices in this area?*

8) *What is the best way to let farmers know about conservation programs?*

9) *Are there any groups in the watershed that would be good resources for education and outreach? Is there a need for education and outreach on pasture management for horse owners or owners of other types of livestock? Who is best to disseminate this type of information?*

10) *How much of the farmland within the project area is leased?*

11) *Are there many horse owners in the area?*

12) *Are there certain BMPs that you feel would be most appropriate for the agricultural community in the watershed?*